

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims shall replace all prior versions and listings of claims.

1-29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) A method of treating an autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease, comprising administering to a patient an effective amount of an isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a second polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 44 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a second polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 52 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) a second polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 54 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) a second polypeptide comprising amino acids 8 to 41 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (e) a second polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 to 54 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- and
- (f) a second polypeptide comprising the extracellular domain of the TR18 receptor polypeptide;

wherein the autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) Sjorgen's Syndrome;
- (ii) Reiter's Disease;
- (iii) Guillain-Barre Syndrome;
- (iv) Hashimoto's thyroiditis;
- (v) Addison's disease;
- (vi) biliary cirrhosis; and
- (vii) asthma.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises a first amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to a second amino acid sequence comprising amino acids 4 to 44 of SEQ ID NO:2.

32. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises a first amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to a second amino acid sequence comprising amino acids 8 to 41 of SEQ ID NO:2.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises a first amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to a second amino acid sequence comprising amino acids 1 to 54 of SEQ ID NO:2.

34. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide is post-translationally modified.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the post-translational modification is glycosylation.

36. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide is linked to a chemical moiety.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the chemical moiety is polyethylene glycol.

38. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide is labeled.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a radioisotope;
- (b) an enzyme label; and
- (c) a fluorescent label.

40. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the isolated polypeptide further comprises a heterologous amino acid sequence.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is the amino acid sequence of a human immunoglobulin constant domain or fragments

thereof.

42. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease is Sjorgen's Syndrome.

43. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease is Hashimoto's thyroiditis.

44. (New) A method of treating an autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease, comprising administering to a patient an effective amount of an isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 44 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 52 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 54 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 8 to 41 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (e) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 to 54 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (f) a polypeptide comprising the extracellular domain of the TR18 receptor polypeptide;

wherein the autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) Sjorgen's Syndrome;
- (ii) Reiter's Disease;
- (iii) Guillain-Barre Syndrome;
- (iv) Hashimoto's thyroiditis;
- (v) Addison's disease;
- (vi) biliary cirrhosis; and
- (vii) asthma.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises amino acids 4 to 44 of SEQ ID NO:2.

46. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises amino acids 8 to 41 of SEQ ID NO:2.

47. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises amino acids 1 to 54 of SEQ ID NO:2.

48. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide is post-translationally modified.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the post-translational modification is glycosylation.

50. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide is linked to a chemical moiety.

51. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the chemical moiety is polyethylene glycol.

52. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide is labeled.

53. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a radioisotope;
- (b) an enzyme label; and
- (c) a fluorescent label.

54. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the isolated polypeptide further comprises a heterologous amino acid sequence.

55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is the amino acid sequence of a human immunoglobulin constant domain or fragments thereof.

56. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease is Sjorgen's Syndrome.

57. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the autoimmune disease or condition associated with an autoimmune disease is Hashimoto's thyroiditis.